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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I deprecate the use of the phrase ' beggar nuisance '. It is not to be looked upon as a nuisance. It has to be looked upon as a fact and as an economic symptom."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Answers to the rest of the questions will be printed in the proceedings."

Representations from the Bethapudi Rajakajane Tenants' Co-operative Society, Guntur district.

* 406 Q.—SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have received representations from the Bethapudi Rajakajane Tenants' Co-operative Society No. 1217 that the lands bearing S. Nos. 600 to 659 in Murukondapadu village, Guntur district, which are already in possession of the members of the society be assigned to the society and if so, the action taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes, the matter is under the consideration of the Government."

Import of cotton seeds from East Punjab.

* 407 Q.—SRI V. SRI KRISHNA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government imported P. 216 F. cotton seeds from East Punjab to sell them to the ryots in delta areas of the Circar districts;

(b) whtther the Government took into considerotion the suitability of the soil and the climate for these seeds;

(c) whether the Government are able to sell the stocks; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the staff in the Agricultural department are being threatened with penalty if the stocks are left unsold?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (a) During 1952 the Government imported from East Punjab P. 216 F. cotton seeds for distribution to the ryots for cultivation in the rice fallows of Tanjore, Tiruchirappalli and South Arcot districts and *not* in the *delta* areas of *Circar* districts.

" (b) & (c) The answers are in the affirmative.

" (d) The answer is in the negative."

Cultivation of banjar lands.

* 408 Q.—SRI K. SUBBA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what steps have been taken by the Government for the cultivation of ' banjar ' lands; and

(b) what is the total acreage of banjar lands in the State?

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (a) It is presumed that by 'Banjar' lands the hon. Member means waste lands both at the disposal of the Government as well as in private holdings. No authoritative survey has so far been made to ascertain the extent of such lands.

In the year 1944, the Government appointed a Special Officer for the compilation of a list of lands fairly near the margin (i.e., economic margin) of cultivation. This scheme was terminated in 1945 as the work of the Karnams was found to be unreliable and inaccurate and it was not possible for the ordinary Revenue Staff to do the amount of supervision necessary to ensure accurate results. A different approach has since been made to tackle the question. In December 1950, the Government sanctioned a Special Staff headed by an Assistant Agricultural Engineer for the detailed investigation of compact blocks of waste lands. The Special Staff lists up lands in holdings which can be brought to profitable cultivation after reclamation as also Government waste lands which are capable of reclamation and cultivation after the provision of irrigation or drainage facilities wherever necessary. This Staff has since completed the work in Nellore, Ramanathapuram and Salem districts; it is at present engaged in South Kanara. The question of constructively utilizing the data obtained for the districts where the survey has been completed is actively engaging the attention of the Government.

With a view to gather the basic data of more immediate value than those contained in the season and crop reports and to have a more accurate idea of really 'cultivable lands' available, the Government are considering the question of making the Revenue Officials responsible for the listing up of all waste and fallow lands within their jurisdiction.

In order to dissuade private landholders from leaving their lands waste, this Government have promulgated the Madras Land Utilisation Order, 1950 which empowers the Collectors to take over occupied waste or arable land and lease out the right to cultivate these lands to other willing cultivators.

Assignments or leases of Government waste lands are being made as usual, wherever there is a demand for them.

" (b) The following particulars taken from the Season and Crop Report for the year 1950–51 (which is the latest report published) are available :—

Classification of land.	Extent in acres.
(i) 'Culturable waste' .. — —	68,23,618
(ii) 'Fallow land' (excluding current fallows) .. .. —	41,58,073

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(These figures, however include considerable areas of lands not fit for cultivation immediately and not fit for profitable cultivation even after reclamation.) "

The number of slums in Madras City.

* 411 *Q*.—SRI C. RAJAM RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of slums in Madras City and the number which have been improved by the Corporation of Madras; and

(*b*) the number of slums which are on Government poramboke lands and the number on private lands?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The total number of slums in the City of Madras is 167. Fourty-two of these slums are on Corporation lands, 41 on Government lands and 84 on private lands. The Corporation has improved 98 slums in all, including all the 42 slums on Corporation lands, by providing essential civic amenities like roads, water supply and drainage, lighting, etc."

Civic amenities in slums in Madras City.

* 412 *Q*.—SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of slums owned by the Government in Madras City; and

(*b*) whether the Government have taken steps to see that they are provided with civic amenities such as light, water, drainage, etc.?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) There are 41 slums on Government lands in the City of Madras.

" (*b*) Steps are being taken to provide necessary civic amenities to these slums. So far 15 slums have been provided with civic amenities. Improvement of other slums will be taken up in due course."

Alleged mismanagement of panchayat funds in Guntur district.

* 413 *Q*.—SRI V. SRI KRISHNA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from the villagers of Nambur, Guntur district, about the mismanagement of panchayat funds;

(*b*) whether the Government have received any report from the present Special Officer in the matter;

(*c*) whether the Government have conducted any departmental enquiry; and

(*d*) the steps the Government propose to take in this matter?